

Terrific Trapunto!

Sewing Machine Quilting—Made Easy

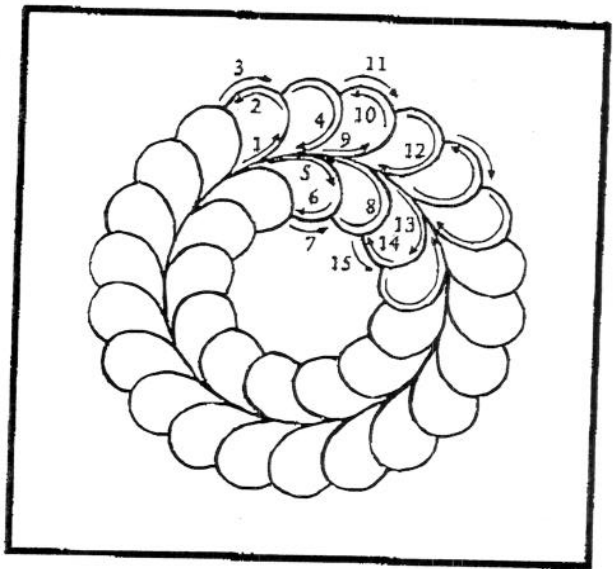
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Trapunto originated in Italy in the early 16th century. It appeared in the United States in the late 1700's and remained popular until the Civil War.

Trapunto is a whole-cloth quilting technique that produces a raised surface on the quilt. Years ago, the shapes were stuffed with small amounts of batting that were inserted from a small slit made in the backing fabric. After the shapes were stuffed, the slit was whipped-stitched closed. A second backing fabric was then added to the quilt and normal quilting was done all around the previously stuffed shapes.

Nowadays, there is a new technique that obtains the same elegant results with less effort and fewer supplies—utilizing the home sewing machine, sharp scissors, a Mark-Be-Gone water soluble pen, and water soluble thread. Best results are on one-color fabric or tone-on-tone (white with white print) etc. (using same color 100% cotton thread). Raised areas are double stuffed using 12 oz. polyester batting sewn in place with water-soluble thread, batting is then trimmed very close to the stitching.

A full layer of 80/20 Hobbs™ batting is used next, along with the back. Quilt with normal thread retracing the original trapunto design and then fill in the void areas with tight, free-motion stitching to make the raised area puff-up. Square-up total fabric square and bind. Wash on gentle or delicate using Orvus WAPaste™ (horse shampoo bought at an animal health store such as IFA). Rinse and block to dry on a towel-covered floor.



Supplies (Donated by Quilted Hens, Vernal, Utah.)

- 2/3 yd for front, back and 2 strips 3 1/2" binding (one color or tone on tone)
- 12" x 12" square of 12 oz. polyester batting
- 17" x 17" square of 80/20 Hobbs Heirloom batting (80% cotton, 20% polyester)

Kit (Purchased with Participation Fee.)

- 100% cotton thread to match fabric
- 1 spool Vanish™ Water Soluble thread

Equipment (To be supplied by participants.)

- 1 package of 30 Basting Pins (safety pins)
- Little Scissors with sharp points
- Seam Ripper
- Rotary Cutter (new blade)
- Rotary Mat
- Straight Pins (quilter pins with plastic ball heads)

- Bernina™ Bobbin
- Bernina™ Walking Foot (optional)
- Bernina™ Free-motion Foot (optional)
- Blue Mark-Be-Gone (optional)
- Rotary Ruler